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THE JERUSALEM POST

See back page MAZDA TOURS

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In today's Business Supplement Money

'Israel's attitude' caused Mubarak to skip summit Economic parley to be held on time DOUGLAS DAVIS and news agencies

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak said yesterday he stayed away from the summit in Washington because he was displeased with Israel's attitude and actions toward the Palestinians.

PM rejects firm deadline on Hebron

Netanyahu, Arafat hold marathon session DAVID MAKOVSKY and HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON



PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, Jordan's King Hussein, President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu walk on the White House grounds during the first day of talks yesterday.

AFTER a day of White House talks to restart the Middle East peace process, there is a plan being considered whereby Israel will announce a "good faith effort" to complete the Hebron redeployment by a specific date, diplomatic sources said last night.

Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas joined the two. The talks were expected to continue into the night. Netanyahu canceled his evening appointment with Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole.

participation of US Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Both White House spokesman Mike McCurry and Israeli officials described the Netanyahu-Arafat discussion as informal but respectful. They provided no details on any progress between the two.

deep differences that divide them and it's very important, I think, for them to establish a personal relationship that allows them to deal very honestly and very forthrightly with the differences that do exist," McCurry stated.

recrimination." Sources said that the US presented Netanyahu with a six-point document they urged him to consider to resolve outstanding problems with the Palestinians. The document asked for: a good faith effort to decide when the Hebron redeployment will occur; a date by which the inner closure around the major Palestinian cities will be lifted; the release of female prisoners; a time when final-status negotiations on the territories will begin

US to deduct \$60m. from loan guarantees HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

THE US will deduct only \$60 million from Israel's annual loan guarantees for the second year in a row, Finance Minister Dan Meridor told the Washington Institute for Near East Policy yesterday.

a modicum of regular consultation between Netanyahu and Arafat; economic assistance to the PA. Regarding the last point, sources said the US is furious at Netanyahu for not following through on a promise that he made to Clinton a few weeks ago about speaking to Congressman Benjamin Gilman (R-NY), head of the House International Affairs Committee. Gilman has held up \$10 million in assistance to the Palestinians since November. Israeli officials confirmed that Netanyahu had promised to ask Gilman to release the funds, but so far has not done so.

Forces on alert in case summit breaks down

ISRAELI forces are on alert for a renewed eruption of violence should the summit in Washington fail to produce, an agreement between Israel and the Palestinians on resuming the peace process. Senior commanders said the IDF won't hesitate to use snipers, tanks and attack helicopters if needed to put down armed assaults on Israeli troops.

Meanwhile, the army said that the joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols in the West Bank would not resume for the time being. OC Central Command Maj-Gen. Uzi Dayan said a "fundamental fissure" had opened between IDF soldiers and Palestinian Police.

"In some cases, the Palestinian Police took part in shooting at Israelis. Until this point is clarified, and there is an agreement on its significance and the steps to be taken, the entire issue of cooperation is in doubt," Dayan told reporters following a visit to wounded soldiers at Jerusalem's Hadassah University Hospital at Ein Kerem.

"The patrols in Judea and Samaria are in Area A. The security situation and the tension in the field at this point... would be endangering the lives of Israeli soldiers," should they enter the Palestinian-controlled zones, Dayan said.

PA officer: Orders were to shoot at Israeli forces if they fired in the air

PALESTINIAN police in the Bethlehem area received orders last week from their commanders to fire in response to Israeli soldiers firing in the air, an officer from Bethlehem said.

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Jerusalem Post... ATHER... DUND THE WORLD... suspect... of US... in Haifa... soldiers hurt

EU blames Israel for conflict, calls on Netanyahu to meet Arafat's demands

LUXEMBOURG - The European Union yesterday urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to meet key Palestinian demands presented at the Washington summit and criticized Israel for its handling of the latest Middle East crisis.

The 15 EU foreign ministers backed a call by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat that the new exit to the Hasmonian Tunnel be closed and called on Netanyahu to honor his predecessors' promise to redeploy in Hebron. The EU blamed Israel for sparking the violence by being too slow in meeting commitments set out in earlier Israeli-Palestinian accords.

"The European Union... calls on Israel to match its stated commitment to the peace process with concrete actions," the EU statement said.

The statement came hours after Arafat met a delegation of EU ministers in Luxembourg on Monday night, during a stopover on his way to meet Netanyahu at the summit in Washington.

News agencies

EU ministers stressed their appeal for restraint and negotiations applied to both sides, but it was clear their criticism was directed mostly at Israel.

"There is a responsibility on behalf of the Israelis, who say they are committed to the peace process, to demonstrate that not merely by rhetoric," British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said.

EU ministers called on Netanyahu to retract his vow never to close the tunnel and urged that it be "restored to its original state."

Despite the criticism, the EU steered clear of any hint of economic sanctions against Israel, which trades heavily with the union. "The EU is not reconsidering its relations with Israel," Rifkind said.

Underscoring their support for the region, the EU ministers agreed immediately to a request that Arafat made Monday for an extra \$22 million in aid to cover

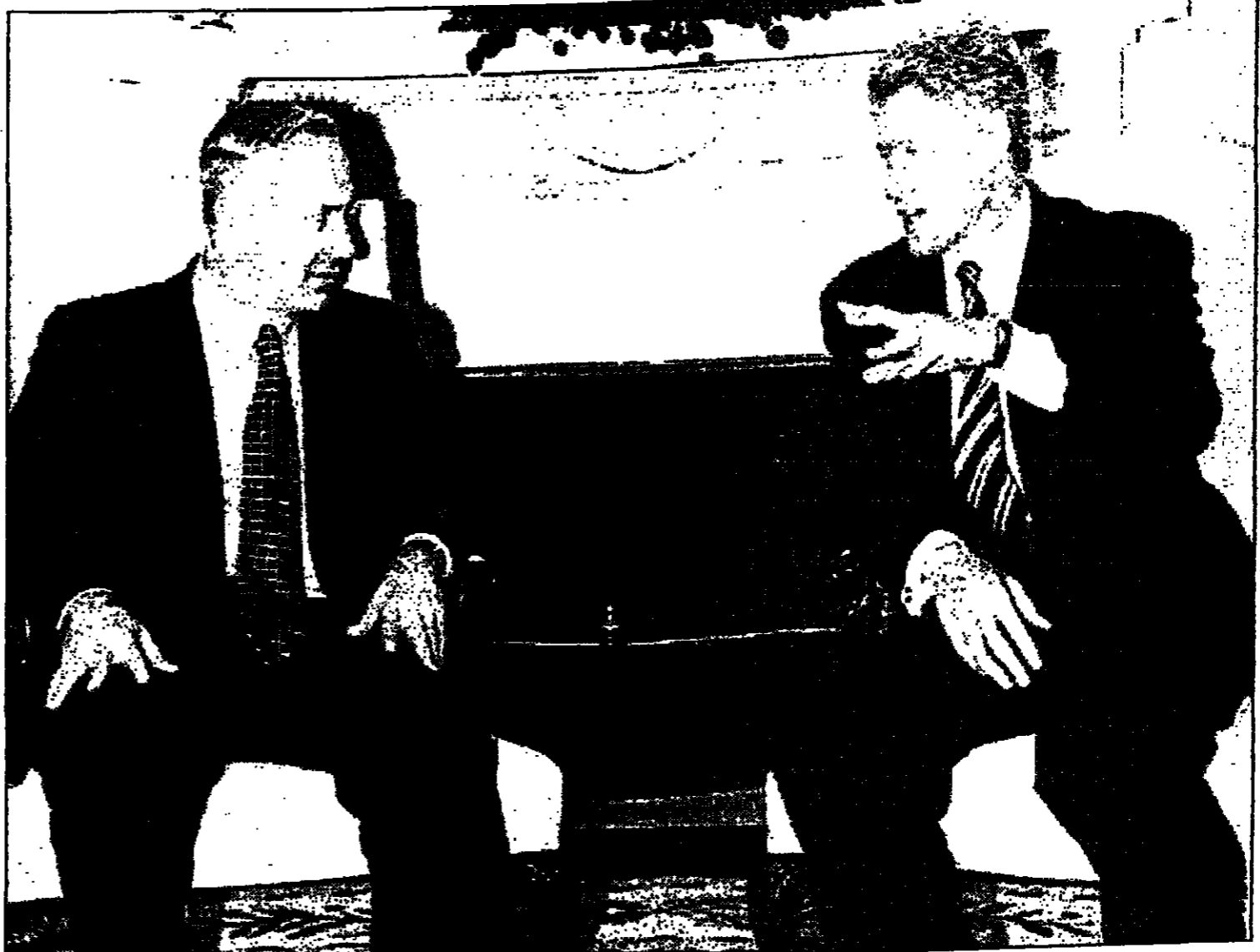
running costs of his administration. They also agreed the EU should negotiate a wide-ranging trade agreement with the Palestinians.

Arafat is to travel to France on Friday for talks with President Jacques Chirac, French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette said yesterday.

"Arafat will be in Paris on Friday night coming back from Washington and will be able to meet the president," he said during a meeting of EU foreign ministers.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said that France believed there was no alternative to the application of agreements signed between the Palestinians and the Labor government, including those calling for final-status talks about Palestinian areas.

He said Chirac and de Charette spoke to Arafat by telephone several times in the past few days and he said they expressed regret France was not invited to the talks in Washington.



US President Bill Clinton meets with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the Oval Office of the White House yesterday morning. Israeli officials said the meeting was pleasant. (Reuters)

Tense quiet in West Bank, as Palestinians await summit results

AS Palestinians await developments in Washington, the total closure imposed on the West Bank enters its fifth day today.

Most residents are also restricted to the areas in which they live, as a double row of IDF and Palestinian Authority checkpoints has created a no-man's land between them on the outskirts of the main towns.

Outside each town, tanks sit in readiness. In Bethlehem the tanks sit just inside the Gilo checkpoint, less than a kilometer from the Bethlehem police headquarters. To get there, a tank would have to smash down the Israeli security wall being built next to Rachel's

JON IMMANUEL

Tomb, but once past there the way would be clear, as the PA has widened and paved the road. Inside some towns, PA police sit in fortified bunkers overlooking Israeli positions, while IDF soldiers are in new guard towers overlooking the towns.

Hebron, whose fate is on the line in Washington, is the only town under a complete curfew, with a four-hour respite from dawn to 8 a.m., although yesterday it was extended to 9.30 am. Apart from a few shops open during those hours, businesses are closed and children

do not go to school. Each suspension of the curfew has brought stone-throwers into the streets.

In Gaza yesterday, two funerals, of a boy and a policeman who died in hospital from wounds sustained in last week's riots, brought out hundreds, many of them chanting "death to the Jews."

Ambulances have been all but barred from crossing into Israel, because of attempts to smuggle people who were not sick into the country, the IDF said. Israel's Physicians for Human Rights complained that genuine patients in urgent need of dialysis treatment have also been barred.

DAVID RUDGE

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak's decision not to participate in the Washington summit is a further indication of his country's tense relations with Israel, according to Dr. Yoram Meital of Ben-Gurion University, an expert on Egyptian affairs.

Meital said Mubarak's absence from the meeting, in conjunction with the increased attacks in the Egyptian press on the government and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in particular, are worrisome.

"This is a red warning light about the situation at the moment, and what could happen in the future," said Meital.

"If there is no positive outcome from the summit and the tension in Israeli-Palestinian relations continues and even worsens then this in turn is likely to have an even more adverse effect on relations between Israel and Egypt," he said.

"In these circumstances we could well see Egypt making use

of the UN and the Arab League as forums for the campaign against the government's policies, as well as putting pressure on Israel on the bilateral level and even forming a diplomatic Arab coalition.

"If these measures do not succeed, then there might come a stage when Egypt would decide to recall its ambassador, Mohamed Elkassaby, from Tel Aviv. We might also see even more rhetoric in the Egyptian press, with the public being allowed to demonstrate in the streets, hand in protests to the Israeli embassy in Cairo, and even burn Israeli flags.

"I'm not saying that all of this would happen automatically, but these are certainly possibilities which would probably be phased over a period of time," Meital said.

Meital stressed that there are

no signs at the moment that Egypt has any intention of launching a war against Israel in the near future.

"I think the Egyptians would first exhaust all diplomatic means before completely breaking off ties with Israel and mobilizing forces and I don't see this happening in the short term," he said.

Meital noted that Egypt had originally been the first to offer its services as a mediator between Israel and the Palestinians over the opening of the Hasmonian Tunnel in Jerusalem, before fighting broke out. This was initially accepted and then rebuffed, as the focus of diplomatic attention switched to the UN and then Washington.

"The Egyptians are pressing for concrete measures on the part of the Prime Minister and the government, including redeployment

in Hebron and other areas according to the Oslo accords, as well as progress in talks on the final-status arrangements," said Meital.

"Mubarak and the decision-makers in Egypt appear to have concluded, however, that because of the election campaign in the US, nothing positive is likely to result from the Washington summit.

"Instead, Mubarak has sent Foreign Minister Amr Moussa in his place to appease the Americans, while he can stay at home and observe from the sidelines," Meital said the presence of Moussa at the meeting would probably be sufficient to offset the apparent rebuff to President Bill Clinton.

"I think the Americans are aware of the fact that this level of participation is a kind of protest. Nevertheless, I can't see this dramatically affecting relations between Cairo and Washington," Meital said.

Peres: Arafat did not initiate firing on Israeli soldiers

LABOR Party leader Shimon Peres said yesterday that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat did not initiate the opening of Palestinian Police fire on IDF soldiers last week.

After last week's unrest, triggered by the opening of the Hasmonian Tunnel exit, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he held Arafat responsible for the shooting.

MICHAL YUDELMAN

"I do not believe Arafat initiated it, the IDF also said as much. Arafat realized quite swiftly that it was a blow to the Palestinian Authority, a terrible mistake, from his perspective as well," Peres said.

Peres, who was on a tour of the Negev, urged Netanyahu not to

neglect relations with Egypt, either. Asked whether the peace accord with Egypt is in danger, Peres said he hopes it is not, since "the treaty with Egypt is the central core of all regional peace. There have been times in which our relations with Egypt weakened, then mended. But we must not enable them to be weakened again at such a critical, tense hour such as this."

HEBRON

(Continued from Page 1)

end the violence and get the peace process going again. We've come a long way in the last three years. No one wants to turn back."

The Netanyahu-Arafat meeting was their first since convening at Erez early last month. It was suggested by Clinton, who obtained the consent of the two when he met separately with each of them in the morning.

McCurry asserted that in their meeting, Clinton applied no pressure on Netanyahu to yield on any of the substantive issues, but that Clinton had suggested ways for the parties to move ahead.

"Clearly, the discussions so far today have gone a long way toward reestablishing that notion of trust that must exist between the parties as they have their discussions," McCurry said.

At one point, US peace team coordinator Dennis Ross entered the Roosevelt Room to find

Netanyahu, Hussein and Arafat chatting amiably and shaking hands, McCurry said.

The Netanyahu-Arafat meeting occurred following a luncheon Clinton hosted for his three guests in the White House's private quarters. Clinton and Hussein left the room, leaving Arafat and Netanyahu alone.

Yesterday's talks, which also included Jordan's King Hussein, were held under a news blackout reminiscent of that which prevailed in the Dayton talks that led to last year's Bosnia peace treaty. For that reason, a briefing Netanyahu had scheduled for Israeli reporters was canceled.

A series of press conferences are scheduled today, however, after the talks end. A concluding statement is expected, that will reaffirm that violence should not be used as a method to achieve political gains, something Netanyahu has been demanding.

MUBARAK

(Continued from Page 1)

expected the summit to run into "rejection, serious rejection by Israel."

Egypt did not expect the summit to produce "any results of note," but it was important to maintain the involvement of the US, "which we welcome."

While defending Mubarak's absence, Moussa supported

Arafat's decision to attend: "He has to go, in his capacity as leader of the Palestinian people, with tremendous support from the Palestinian people and the Arab states.

"It is up to him to say 'yes' and 'no' as appropriate," he continued. "Egyptian diplomacy stands fully behind the Palestinian side, even though it is absent from the Washington summit."

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Amal attacks SLA post**
The Amal Shi'ite movement claimed responsibility for an attack yesterday with machine guns and light weapons on a South Lebanese Army post in the western sector of the security zone. There were no casualties, and IDF and SLA gunmen returned fire.
- Boy wounded by stones**
An Israeli youngster was lightly wounded yesterday morning near Dshiriyia in the Hebron Hills, when stones were thrown at the car he was riding in. The boy was treated on the spot and the army searched the area, the IDF Spokesman said.
- Yisrael Ba'aliya: PM should stand firm**
Yisrael Ba'aliya yesterday issued a statement calling on the prime minister to stand firm on Israeli vital interests written in the government's policy basic guidelines "and not to give a prize for the serious and intolerable violation of the [Oslo] agreement given violent expression by the Palestinian Police."

IDF eases ban on Israeli journalists in Palestinian-controlled areas

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

UNDER heavy pressure from journalists and civil rights groups, the IDF has eased its ban of Israeli journalists from Palestinian-controlled areas and is now letting them in if they are escorted by the Palestinian Police.

The IDF Spokesman said the decision came after army had "reassessed the situation."

In new conditions the entry into Area A on the Israeli journalists coordinating their entry with the Palestinian Authority.

Only those who are met by Palestinian policemen at IDF-guarded entrances to Area A will be permitted to enter, the army said.

Meanwhile, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak promoted to first lieutenant the army doctor who helped evacuate and treat members of a Channel 2 crew who were wounded and pinned down by Palestinian gunfire at the Erez crossing last Thursday.

Shahak awarded the promotion to Dr. Reuven Bolchineski when he visited wounded soldiers at Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon. The doctor was not an officer and was serving following an academic deferment.

ALERT

(Continued from Page 1)

"We are using the time to improve our preparedness. In most places the Palestinian Police are trying to maintain quiet. But it is a tense quiet," Dayan said.

Maj.-Gen. Amiaz Sagis, head of the Technology and Logistics Branch, told Channel 2 that the army was preparing to maintain its deployment through the winter.

"We are preparing for an extended stay. The winter is at the doorstep," Sagis said. "And we are readying ourselves for it."

In an hour-long interview yesterday with Army Radio, Mordechai indicated that the timing for opening the Hasmonian Tunnel exit could have been better.

"My opinion was that we had the right to open the tunnel. The principle problem, in my opinion, was the issue of timing because timing has meaning," he said.

Despite the heavy IDF losses, Mordechai said the IDF had properly deployed to meet the raging crowds and had "significantly" reduced the gunfire on soldiers.

"I think that I as minister of defense acted with responsibility regarding the instructions, orders and deployment," Mordechai said. "This deployment is what today

has brought the other [Palestinian] side to think twice about returning to the peace process because other options are much more dangerous."

Mordechai blasted Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat for personally instigating the riots.

"He is the one who instructed that violence and incitement be increased. Only he apparently didn't estimate that it would deteriorate into the use of weapons and spread," Mordechai said. "I blame the Palestinian Authority for the way it behaved and am not prepared to accept that some Palestinian figure fires at the IDF or Israeli citizens and we feel uncomfortable and start a process of blaming ourselves."

Prior to visiting the wounded troops, Dayan surveyed the situation at Joseph's Tomb in Nablus. He said that Israelis were still barred from visiting the shrine.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club at the YMCA, King David St., at 1 p.m., will NOT take place today.

Happy holiday and a happy new year to all.

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האזנה מן הלאה

20,000 at anti-government rally in TA

SOME 20,000 people flocked to Tel Aviv's Kikar Hamedina area last night for an anti-government demonstration organized by Peace Now.

Some 600 policemen were deployed at the square, an unusual venue for such demonstrations. But the demonstrators were quiet and orderly, chanting along to peace anthems sung by David Broza and Miri Aloni. Aloni closed the demonstration with "A Song for Peace," which she sang just minutes before prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination at a rally last November.

Demonstrators waved banners reading "Netanyahu is bad for the country," "Peace Now" and "East Jerusalem equals Vietnam." Labor MK Yossi Beilin called on Prime

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to launch immediate negotiations following the Washington summit and to make Israel and the Israeli people his first priority, and not the Americans. "Bibi [Netanyahu] should come down from his high horse," he said from the heavily guarded stage. "He has made a terrible mistake. He cannot throw this whole country into a whirlpool because of his inexperience and superfluous stubbornness."

The Hasmonian Tunnel, he added, was "just one step too far. It has exploded right in our faces." The crowd swayed and chanted in response, "Bibi get out of the tunnel now."

RAINE MARCUS

Beilin, Meretz MKs Yossi Sarid, Naomi Chazan and Anat Maor, and other politicians at the rally vowed to continue mass demonstrations for the next four years if necessary. "If Bibi implements the peace process, we will support and help him," Beilin shouted. "If not, he will see us in every square and at every junction around the country."

He urged Netanyahu to redeploy the IDF in Hebron, acknowledging that "we can only reach an agreement if Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat complies." Sarid, the next to appear onstage, shouted to the cheering crowd, "We don't want Netanyahu to return without an agreement in hand. 'I don't know if Bibi has ever seen

white smoke, but very soon we will see black smoke, ashes and more bloodshed," he said.

Describing Netanyahu as "that small agitator" and "provocateur," Sarid slammed him for continually blaming the left for its "irresponsibility."

"Who is irresponsible now?" Sarid repeated several times. "Who is responsible for dividing up Jerusalem? Who is responsible for last week's bloodshed, for the 20 centimeter hole in the wall of death [the Hasmonian Tunnel]?"

"There are now two possibilities — that the ship that we are all in will crash into the rocks and sink and we will sink with it, or that Bibi can return from Washington with an agreement; he dare not come back without one."

Kahalani: Third Way will leave gov't if no progress made in DC

DAVID RUDGE

INTERNAL Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani last night vowed that the Third Way would leave the government if Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu failed to advance the peace process during the Washington summit, or if he decided to close the Hasmonian Tunnel because of US pressure.

Kahalani made the declarations before thousands of Third Way party supporters in Katzin last night and earlier yesterday at another ceremony to mark the 110th anniversary of the founding of the first modern-day Zionist farming village on the Golan.

The ceremony, organized by the Golan Residents Committee, was held at the site of the former village of Ramtaniya, which was settled by a group from Safed in 1886.

They lived there for about 18 months before leaving the site and establishing a new farming community known as Bnei

Yehuda on the southern reaches of the Golan. Bnei Yehuda was later abandoned in 1920.

The present day Moshav Bnei Yehuda, a regional center not far from Kibbutz Ein Gev, was established in 1971 and is named after its predecessor.

The former village of Ramtaniya is today in the heart of an IDF firing zone, which is normally a closed area but has been opened to the public for Succot.

The Golan Tourism Association is organizing free guided tours of the area and distributing maps of the Golan to visitors throughout the holiday.

Nearly 3,000 Third Way supporters toured the Golan yesterday as part of the events to commemorate Ramtaniya's anniversary and 30 years of Jewish settlement on the Golan.

Kahalani praised the pioneering Zionist spirit of Golan resi-

dents past and present and said the same spirit is needed to keep Jerusalem united under Israeli rule.

Third Way leader Eli Malka said Kahalani had told Netanyahu before he left for the Washington summit that the party would fully support Netanyahu if he achieved progress in the peace process.

"He also told the prime minister, however, that the party would leave the government if the peace process is stopped or if because of US pressure he decides to close the [Hasmonian] tunnel," Malka said.

Kahalani, at the gathering in Katzin, underlined the Third Way's commitment to a united Jerusalem and retaining the Golan under Israeli rule and stressed the importance of not yielding to terror.

He maintained that closing the tunnel now would be a blow to national pride.

Right and Left fight for the streets

COMMENT

HERB KEINON

THE country's political parties called off most of their large rallies at the height of the May election campaign because they feared no one would show up.

Following the Rabin assassination and the prevalent feeling then that the wave of anti-government protests had something to do with the atmosphere that bred the killer, people were hesitant to go out and demonstrate.

That period is over. Both the Left and the Right are using street-corner vigils, protest gimmicks and large rallies to battle for the sentiments of both the country and the world. Not a day has passed since last week's fighting in the territories without an anti-government protest by Peace Now or another left-wing group. And not a day has passed without the right combating this with a pro-Netanyahu action of its own.

All this is testament to the enduring faith these groups have in the power of protest. Peace Now leaders look back with nostalgia at the demonstrations during the Lebanon War that helped change government policy, while the Right claims its protest campaign against the Labor government helped bring Netanyahu to power.

True, the Left's protests may not immediately topple the government — the Right's four years of anti-Labor demonstrations proved that this is difficult — but they can create an atmosphere in which people in the political center begin questioning the

wisdom of the government's policies. The Right realizes this, and has decided to fight back. Silence, this reasoning goes, serves the other side.

From the Left's point of view, last night's rally in Tel Aviv — and others that are sure to follow — serve a number of purposes: They put the government on notice that there are a lot of people out there who passionately object to its policies; they help unify the leadership of the Left; and they act as a catalyst, ensuring that the left-wing parties play an active opposition role.

The Left's protests are also meant to show the world that there are many Israelis who oppose Netanyahu's policies, something foreign governments can then use to pressure Netanyahu, arguing, "Look, your own people disagree with you." The protests are also meant to send a more "humane" picture of Israel abroad.

The Right, for its part, is using its protests to show the political center that at this time — when there is intense criticism of Netanyahu both here and overseas — there are many who really do support his policies. As to the world, the Right's message will really only matter if the protests move from demonstrations in support of Netanyahu, to demonstrations against him — something that could happen if the prime minister agrees in Washington to rede-

ploy in Hebron and allows armed Palestinians forces to enter the city.

It was no coincidence that Foreign Minister David Levy reportedly sent a message to the US administration last week, saying that "domestic considerations" pre-

clude Israel from closing the exit to the Hasmonian Tunnel. These "domestic considerations" are opposition from the right. Protest leaders on the Right have expressed a willingness, if needed, to illustrate this opposition by means of high-profile demonstrations. These kind of anti-Netanyahu demonstrations could actually serve the prime minister's interests.

More pro- and anti-government demonstrations planned

HERB KEINON

A COALITION of left-wing parties and organizations — including representatives from Labor, Meretz, Peace Now, Meimad, Netivot Shalom, the United Kibbutz Movement and Kibbutz Ha'arti — met yesterday in the office of Labor Party secretary-general Nissim Zivli to coordinate protest policies against the current government.

Mossy Raz, Peace Now's political director, said it was agreed to work together on large rallies, but that each group could also carry out their own initiatives. A small coordinating committee was established to set policy.

Raz said the goals of the protest campaign were broadly defined as being an end to the closure in the territories, and a continuation of the peace process.

On the other side of the fence, the Council of Jewish

Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza has called for a demonstration this evening at Sacher Park in support of Netanyahu. The scheduling, however, has annoyed city officials, since it is slated to take part at the same time and location as the concluding events of today's Jerusalem March.

Giora Glazer, director of the march, said the council is "trying to hitchhike on the march, and we are not going to let that happen."

But Yechiel Leiter, spokesman for the council, said there is no attempt to unfairly use the march in order to swell the numbers of protesters.

"There will already be a lot of people out there who identify with Netanyahu," he said. "It is only natural that a march saluting Jerusalem will end with a demonstration supporting the prime minister's policies in Jerusalem."

LIBI - The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense

President's Wife Visits Havat Hashomer

Mrs. Reuma Weizman, wife of the President of the State, visited the Havat Hashomer Army base as the guest of Keren Libi and the Education Corps.

The base, whose operation is funded by Keren Libi, absorbs soldiers with a special draft threshold, providing them with a special basic training and with basic educational skills to prepare them for effective service in the IDF, and thereafter for positive integration within Israeli society.

Mrs. Weizman met the commanders, teachers and trainees, and gained an unmediated impression of the unique educational activity conducted at this base.

On her visit, she was accompanied by Mr. Menahem Sherman, chairman of the Committee for the Economy in Times of Emergency and a senior member of the Libi Association; Brig. Gen. Abraham Asael, Chief Education Officer; and by members of the associations of Friends of Libi from the Dan Region, and from Jerusalem, Haifa, Beersheva, and Nes Ziona.



In the picture: Mrs. Reuma Weizman speaking with soldiers at Havat Hashomer.

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Blair vows to lead Britain into new age

BLACKPOOL (Reuters) - Opposition leader Tony Blair vowed yesterday to take Britain into a new education-led "age of achievement" if his Labor party, as opinion polls overwhelmingly predict, wins power at the next election.

Promising to lead "a great, radical, reforming government", Blair mapped out plans to create a "national grid of learning" by hooking up schools to the information superhighway.



Labor leader Tony Blair during his impassioned keynote speech to the party faithful at their conference in Blackpool yesterday. (Reuters)

Advancing Taliban out to capture ousted military commander

KABUL (AP) - Taliban fighters advanced north yesterday toward the forces of ousted President Burhanuddin Rabbani on the crucial highway linking Afghanistan to Central Asia.

Fresh sleaze claims rock Major's reelection hopes

LONDON (Reuters) - Political sleaze returned to haunt Britain's ruling Conservative party yesterday, just days before John Major launches a last-ditch campaign to secure his re-election as prime minister.

Former minister Neil Hamilton accepted cash for asking parliamentary questions. Hamilton said he was stopping his case only because he could not afford the legal fees.

activities and named four other Conservative MPs it said had earned "cash for questions" by lobbying in parliament on behalf of Mohammed al-Fayed, owner of London store Harrods.

Ciller: Iraq pipeline to reopen soon

ISTANBUL (Reuters) - Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller said yesterday UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had told her Iraq's oil pipeline would be reopened in a few weeks under a UN plan, state-owned Anatolian news agency reported.

For President Bill Clinton, Palesse Yasser Arafat, King Hussein bin Talal, and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu: In these days of tragedy for both our peoples, we Israelis and Palestinians remain our faith in our common future. We call upon our leaders, the Government of Israel and the PLO, to reaffirm their commitment to the Oslo Accords...

Several other newspapers also made Hamilton their lead story, reminding electors of a history of sleaze allegations against the ruling Conservatives, who began their pre-election party conference in exactly one week's time.

Father commits suicide after son accused of bullying

TOKYO (Reuters) - A distraught father killed himself after his son was accused of taking part in the bullying of a classmate who committed suicide, Japanese police said yesterday.

BIBLE LANDS MUSEUM JERUSALEM SATURDAY NIGHT CONCERT "Leibedig und Lustig" An evening of authentic Klezmer Music.

Yeltsin, in hospital, meets premier

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin, in hospital while doctors prepare the ground to operate on his heart, met Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin yesterday, Russian news agencies said.

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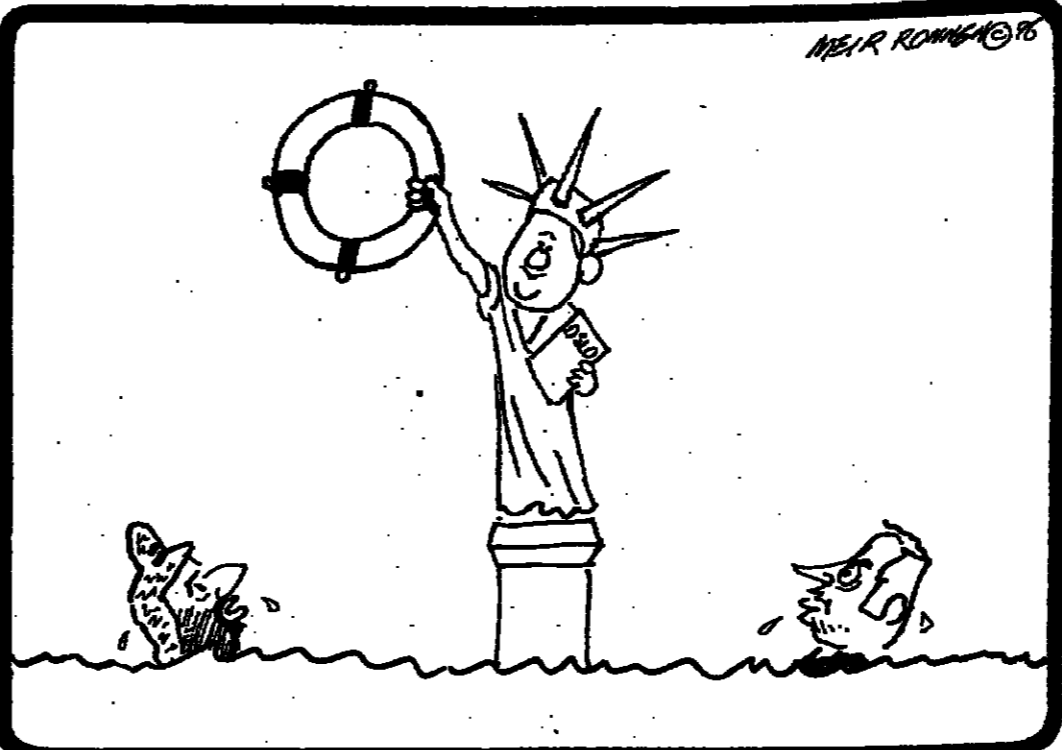
British woman expecting octuplets loses three babies LONDON (Reuters) - A British woman expecting octuplets lost three babies on Monday when only about 20 weeks pregnant and doctors said the outlook for the others was bleak.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Staunch friends
PATRICK GOODENOUGH

IF there are attacks against us, they are always preceded by terrible vilification. If there's been any wellspring in the history of antisemitism, it is to describe the Jewish people as the poisoners of the wells...

Standing firm on Hebron

ONE of the main topics on the agenda of this week's Washington summit is expected to be Hebron. According to US officials, President Bill Clinton plans to demand concrete concessions from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu...

From tunnel to summit

MOSHE ZAK

SCARCELY had Binyamin Netanyahu raised his head from the depths of the Hasmonean Tunnel then he jettisoned straight to the White House summit. So fond is the premier of the TV lights that focus on his every meeting with world statesmen...

There was a signal Netanyahu should have sent Arafat, but didn't

And had Netanyahu demonstrated on his return to Israel that the issue went beyond economics or history Israelis wouldn't have waxed so cynical over the price in blood of 50 meters of tunnel.

Fanaticism and folly

YOSSI BEILIN

EVER since the prime minister made the fatal mistake of opening the exit from the Hasmonean Tunnel, there have been attempts to shift the blame onto the governments of Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.

people. We could all have waited until the final-status arrangement in May 1999 before opening the tunnel.

In opening the tunnel exit, Netanyahu opened up a Pandora's box

cannot be dismissed; but it should be noted that on Shabbat Palestinian policemen were already serving as a buffer between the enraged Palestinian masses and the IDF — something they couldn't have done had they not been armed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- WARS OF THE JEWS: Sir, - I was somewhat surprised to read the letter "Wars of Religion" by R. Willers on September 24. While stating "I love cartoons" and admitting to awareness that cartoonists tend to claim a degree of artistic license...
INDIAN JEWRY: Sir, - I am a journalist from Cochin, South India, now in Israel, and trying to publish my third book, The Records Upon Indian Jewry...

Our stand makes us unpopular but we uphold Israel's cause wherever we go

address the opening night of the event, and have received standing ovations.

OUR STAND makes us unpopular, not least among some of our co-religionists, one of whom was quoted this week as saying we do not represent Christianity.

For years we have seen "Christian representatives" ally themselves with the Arab and Moslem positions on Israel. We have witnessed their ceaseless condemnations of Israel, even as they ignore their fellow Christians' suffering under Islamic oppression in Lebanon, Egypt, Iran and Sudan.

The writer is a South African journalist working for the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem.

Advertisement for 'EVERYTHING VISUAL DICTIONARY' with Hebrew text and images.

996 The Jerusalem Post
Staunch friends
PATRICK GOODENOUGH

In W. Samoa, you don't have to be crazy to love Israel

Pilgrims want to see for themselves that Israel is not in heaven, but here on this earth, Jessica Steinberg reports

DRESSED in a purple flowered caftan, with a pink flower tucked behind her ear and curly brown hair reaching her waist, Donna Alone-Le Tagaloa doesn't look like a typical

microbiologist. Then again, the 27-year-old Western Samoan is on a two week vacation, visiting Israel for the annual Feast of Tabernacles. Many of the pilgrims now here

are middle-aged pastors with their congregations from small African and Asian countries making their fifth or sixth pilgrimage to the biblical land of milk and honey.

Some visitors have scrimped and saved, trekked and traveled, in order to make this much longed-for journey.

As a microbiologist working in a hospital in Apia, Western Samoa's capital, Tagaloa earns about \$11,000 a year. The airfare to Israel costs \$8,200, and the 30-hour route starts from her small island of 160,000 people in the South Pacific, landing first in Fiji, then Los Angeles, another leg to London and finally landing in Tel Aviv.

According to Donna, when her father heard that she was contemplating the trip he said, "How much do you earn? And how much is the trip? Are you crazy?"

To which she responded, "No, I'm not. I just want to go to Israel to tell them that I love them." Tagaloa and her fiancé, Anisello Ioane - a 28-year-old computer programmer whom she met while volunteering for a ministry youth program - first thought about making the journey to Israel when they heard about the experience five months ago from Suiptpe Maria Schmidt, also from Western Samoa.

Schmidt, a factory caterer, was thinking about returning for a second trip but lacked the necessary funds.

The three joined forces, went to their prayer meetings to find the strength and guidance for such an endeavor, and then started the fundraising process. Several barbecues, walkathons and lollipop drives later, they had \$4,000 and four months until the festival. They walked into the bank and asked for three loans which were granted along with raised eyebrows and 6 percent interest.

"We had no qualms at all," says Tagaloa. "You see, there are those who believe that Israel is in heaven, not on this living earth. But we knew differently and we had to come see it for ourselves."

They also asked family members from New Zealand and America for funds, and contributions started filtering in, \$20 bills

and \$1,000 checks. Three days before they were scheduled to leave, Schmidt went over to the bank to withdraw the money and was told that all loans had been frozen for an indefinite period of time.

"I went back there and said to them that not by might, not by power but by spirit we can open those loans," she says, laughing at herself. Sure enough, the next morning she got a call from the loan officer who said that theirs were the only ones being granted that month.

"You see, we knew in our hearts that this trip is really for God and that if He really wanted us to go, He would provide the money," explains Tagaloa. "And the real reason that we were going was to open the spiritual eyes of our friends and neighbors, to show them what's happening in the Holy Land through our experiences." While they're here, their friends and family are fundraising for money to pay for the outstanding loans.

It's not an unusual occurrence in a culture where everyone pitches in, contributing money for friends' and family weddings, funerals and other events. One fellow congregant, an electrician, sat in front of the loan officer's door until he was granted a loan, which he then donated to the three pilgrims for their trip.

"He also wants to come to Israel," says Schmidt, "and he made a vow that he won't shave his beard until he arrives here."

So far, the trip has been worth every cent that they were lent, even though Tagaloa and her fiancé will have no money for their wedding at the end of the year. But, she says, they'll have a small wedding and it will be all the sweeter knowing that they spent their holiday in Jerusalem.

"For us, it's all about creating a personal relationship with Yeshua," she adds, slanting a quick look at Ioane. "Because through that personal relationship with Yeshua, I discovered Israel, and that was due to meeting other people who had that experience, who were reborn."

Tagaloa was reborn as a Christian after studying microbi-

ology in New Zealand, where she met an older woman who "knew God like the back of her hand."

She believes that one can tell if a person is truly sincere by whether they can hear God, and if they can, it's because they came to Israel. While her sisters and mother are reborn, her father and brother are not, and neither are

Schmidt and Ioane's family members. The three prayed for their families at the Western Wall and hope that their prayers will be answered.

"You know," says Schmidt, "Although we went through this hard way, running around for money and people said why are you wasting your time, I just want

to say thank you Lord because we appreciate every minute of this trip."

Ioane adds, "And when the Messiah comes, hold onto your coatsails because it'll be quite a trip, and then we'll see you back here."



Donna Alone-Le Tagaloa, a Western Samoan pilgrim. (Issac Harari)



The Princess of Swaziland (left) and the Queen of Lesotho relax during their visit to Israel. (Harari)

Ejector-seat maker marks 50 explosive years There's nothing cold in behavior modification for children

FIFTY years ago, Bernard Lynch blasted himself out of a Meteor jet fighter, parachuted to the ground and walked into a nearby pub for a pint of beer.

The mustachioed Irishman had just successfully completed the first live test of the Martin-Baker ejection seat, a device that has saved the lives of more than 6,500 pilots and aircrew.

After downing his reviving ale, Lynch described the experience of sitting in an ejection seat and being fired out of the Meteor's cockpit into the slipstream at a height of 2,500 meters as like "being thrown into a brick wall."

The Germans developed an ejection seat in 1942 and the Swedish company Saab tested its own version a year later, but the British-built Martin-Baker seat has captured three-quarters of the Western market.

Even in peace time, the company says there are two or three ejections from combat aircraft every week around the world, usually as a result of engine failure.

The Martin-Baker Aircraft Company was founded by James Martin, an irascible engineer from Northern Ireland who conducted a long feud with the British government, which he believed did not appreciate the value of his invention in saving the lives of air-force pilots.

Martin, a self-educated farmer's son, was asked in 1944 by the Air Ministry to work on an ejection seat, the product that set his company on course for the next 50 years.

With the advent of jet aircraft flying at high speeds, it was no longer possible for pilots in trouble to open the canopy and jump out unaided, as in the Battle of Britain, before pulling the rip-cord and parachuting to the ground.

The first ejection seats were developed by building ground-based metal towers which allowed the seats - and volunteer testers - to be fired upwards on runners without flying off into the air.

When fitted to aircraft, the early seats blasted pilots into the air using an explosive cartridge, and in the 1960s there was a switch, to rocket-powered seats.

These fire ejectives out of their aircraft at a rate that will cause them serious injury unless they are strapped in - accelerating from zero to 200 km/h in less than a second after they pull the yellow-and-black handle between their knees.

The first person to use the Martin-Baker ejection seat in earnest was Joe Lancaster, now aged 77, who in 1949 was a test pilot at the controls of an experimental "flying wing" aircraft, the Armstrong Whitworth AW52.

A newly published biography of Sir James Martin describes how Lancaster's aircraft suddenly hit turbulence and began shaking violently, throwing the pilot about so fiercely that he could no longer even focus on his cockpit instruments.

He ejected successfully, avoiding a canal and breaking his fall by crashing through a hedge.

Rescuers found him drinking a cup of tea in a nearby farmhouse. He had suffered a chipped shoulder bone, some cracked vertebrae and a lot of bruises. It had taken about 15 seconds from when the aircraft started shaking until he ejected from the cockpit, feeling "like a pea in a matchbox."

Lancaster continued his career as a test pilot until 1960 and did not have to eject again.

Sir James Martin died in 1981 at the age of 87, having never lost his contempt for government meddling in his work.

At a Buckingham Palace reception he once told then prime minister Harold Wilson: "Mr. Prime Minister, you know that our line of business is ejection seats." Then, referring to the official residences of the prime minister and chancellor of the exchequer, he added: "Now if you bought a large number of these seats and fitted them to some of the useless people you have at No 10 [Downing Street] and the building next door and fired them through the roof, you could then make a clean start." (Reuters)

once; they need a lot of reminding and suggesting and your continuing pleasure and affirmation when they actually do the behaviors that are important to you.

When you want to change a behavior that is difficult for the child to change or when you want him to give up something he's attached to, you need to give him lots of support and encouragement. You may call this behavior modification, but it's much more basic in terms of modes of learning.

On the other hand, you may want to follow the child's natural rhythm, whereas someone else may grow impatient. As long as the child is well adjusted, it's not so important if she gives up the bottle at age one or three or at five.

And certainly the most powerful factor in a child's learning is the example of the parents.

I see a lot of advice in your column and elsewhere that is based on behavior modification techniques, e.g. for toilet training, stopping the bottle, getting your child out of your bed at night, etc. This goes against my grain. Are there other approaches to getting your child to do what you want him to do?

Debbie Forten, marriage and family therapist at Shiluv Institute, replies:

It seems to me that if behavior modification techniques perturb you, you might be seeing it as kind of cold, distant training. The techniques may seem harsh to you or unrelated to who your child is.

But the principles are helpful in guiding your child. It might be helpful to look at some of the ideas that lie behind behavior modification and see how they could be adapted to what is comfortable to you, makes sense to you and fits your family's style.

For most children, pleasing the parents, being able to succeed in a task and enjoying their own growing competence is sufficient reward.

When we say "reward" here, we mean a smile, the approval or pleasure of the parent. Punishments or explicit gifts are rarely necessary when the parents communicate satisfaction and pleasure at the child's growing competence.

We need to repeat the instructions and the reinforcement, because children don't learn at

There's nothing cold in behavior modification for children

PARENTING
RUTH MASON

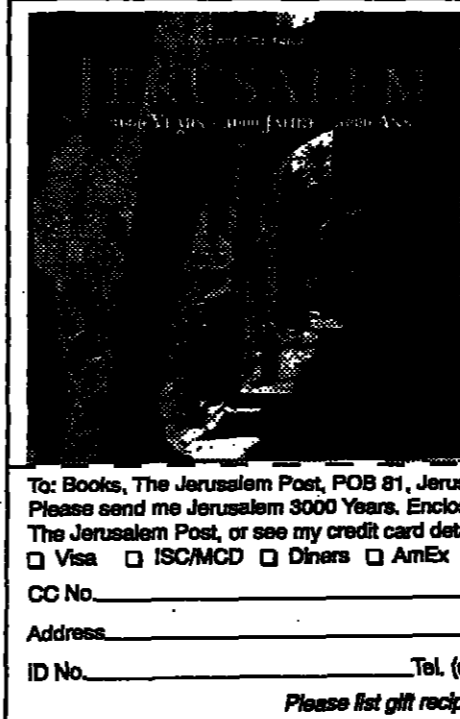


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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, October 2, 1996

Currency reserves cross \$10b. mark Shekel up 0.9% against dollar

Jerusalem Post Staff

ISRAEL'S foreign-currency reserves reached an all-time high of \$10.262 billion in September, an increase of \$740 million over their level at the end of the previous month, the Bank of Israel reported yesterday.

The shekel's recovery apparently stemmed from traders' expectation that the White House summit between PA Chairman Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would help restore political calm after last week's clashes between Palestinian policemen and IDF soldiers.

Sept. deficit NIS87m.; excess budget spending at NIS9b. for year

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE budget deficit grew during September by an additional NIS87 million, the Finance Ministry reported yesterday.

The ballooning budget deficit is largely due to the Treasury's failure to adequately forecast its internal revenues, meaning the government's expenditures were calculated based on unrealistic balances.

point are clearly heavier than they were last year, when the cost-of-living index hit a 26-year low of 8.1%.

EU okays PA's place in Med trade bloc

LUXEMBOURG (Reuters) - The European Union pledged yesterday to continue financial support for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and approved plans to include the fledgling Palestinian entity in a lucrative Mediterranean trade bloc.

contributed over 320 million ecu European currency units (\$400 million) to development of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

EU foreign ministers approved a proposal by the European Commission for Palestinian authorities to be included in the so-called Euromed accord, which governs the 15-nation bloc's relations with Mediterranean partners.

A statement by the Commission - the EU's executive - said the agreement would comply with all World Trade Organization rules.

The timing of the mandate could be seen as a boost for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as he prepared for the U.S.-led peace summit in Washington with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Jordan's King Hussein.

It said the agreement would allow Palestinian authorities to group all goods produced for export in the West Bank or Gaza Strip under one point of origin label - important for EU import regulations.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel welcomed the EU's commitment to financial support, saying: "We have concentrated our efforts more on the economic side and it should remain that way."

While the agreement seeks trade reciprocity, it does allow for some protection by the Palestinians of industries considered "fragile." This would allow them to restrict certain EU imports or impose tariffs on them.

The Euromed Accord - which aims to turn the Mediterranean region into a free-trade zone - offers lucrative financial incentives to non-EU countries to bring their economies into line with the 15-nation bloc.

Approval for the mandate comes after a rash of diplomatic activity between the EU and Palestinian authorities ahead of the Washington summit.

The mandate given to the commission to negotiate Palestinian entry means the fledgling territory could be included by the end of this year.

Arafat met some EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg on Monday night on his way to Washington, where he asked for more financial assistance to offset the effects of the closure.

The EU is the biggest donor of financial aid to Palestinian authorities and since 1993 has



Gemologist Christian Dunaigre (left) and sales agent Jeffery Bergman pose in the United Arab Emirates with the world's largest known emerald cluster, worth an estimated \$50 million. The cluster of 127 medium green emeralds weighing 380,000 carats (76 kilograms) is owned by an unidentified Asian who plans to sell it. The emerald is now on display at the Mideast Watch and Jewelry Fair in Sharjah.

Heisten family wants acceptance of bid for Mercantile by end of year

THE Heisten family of American-Jewish bankers is prepared to wait no later than the end of this year for the Treasury to accept its proposal to purchase Mercantile Discount Bank in its entirety, a representative of the family here said yesterday.

Minister Dan Meridor expressing his intention to purchase 100 percent of Mercantile Discount Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of Israel Discount Bank, in partnership with British businessman Bernard Schreier.

Galit Lipkis Beck Treasury to respond to the offer, and thus demonstrate its seriousness in actually implementing its declared privatization designs.

acted illegally, since it did not obtain a permit for the transaction from the central bank.

60% of its holdings in Mercantile, and the remainder through warrants.

Daimler-Benz workers protest

STUTTGART, Germany (Reuters) - About 100,000 workers of German industrial group Daimler-Benz AG participated in a protest day against sick-pay cuts, the Daimler-Benz works council said yesterday.

CAPE TOWN (Reuters) - Money laundering and drug trafficking are major threats to South Africa's fledgling democracy and future economic well-being, Justice Minister Dullah Omar said yesterday.

secretary" built up in South Africa by covert government operations under apartheid, which had spilled over into the private sector.

underground" economy, debilitated the financial sector and perverted business morality, Omar said.

taken to "collectively combat this scourge."

AIMING to whet Americans' taste for whiskey, Seagram is breaking one of the American advertising's lingering taboos - by advertising liquor on television.

US President Bill Clinton, as well as health advocacy and consumer groups, have reportedly asked the distiller to honor the ban.

Karl Feuerstein, head of the group's works council, said the protests took place at over 50 work sites around Germany and had included participation from Daimler's DASA aerospace and debris information system units.

Opening a three-day conference on money laundering, Omar said now that South Africa was an open society, "the super gangsters have identified [it] as a fresh and innocent market for money laundering and international crime."

As a result, many South Africans hid their sources of income and did things "off the book," sometimes with the aim of transferring their money out of the country.

Omar said all African countries were affected, and although statistics on the extent and scope of the problem were "not readily available," it was clear it was an increasingly serious crime.

He also recommended the establishment of a central financial intelligence unit to keep track of such transactions. Parliament is currently examining legislation to enforce this.

Although American television stations greedily gulp down lucrative beer commercials - which usually are wrapped around weekend sports programming - the liquor industry for a half century has had a voluntary custom of shunning TV advertising to avoid promoting the product to children.

After a trial run on Texas TV earlier this summer, Seagram expanded its ad campaign, the reports said. "Tasteful" ads for Chivas and Crown Royal whiskey are expected to run in small TV markets, but news reports said only after 9 p.m., when fewer children watch.

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Seagram breaks TV-ad taboo

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

AIMING to whet Americans' taste for whiskey, Seagram is breaking one of the American advertising's lingering taboos - by advertising liquor on television.

US President Bill Clinton, as well as health advocacy and consumer groups, have reportedly asked the distiller to honor the ban.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS				
Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)				
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.375	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.625	1.825	2.125	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.625	0.750	1.000	
Yen (10 million yen)				

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (1.10.96)					
CURRENCY BASKET	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep.
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.5326	3.5929	3.10	3.26	3.5668
German mark	3.1635	3.2148	2.94	3.14	3.1920
Pound sterling	2.0765	2.1100	1.86	2.04	2.0841
French franc	4.9517	5.0816	4.86	5.11	4.9972
Japanese yen (100)	0.5132	0.6231	0.80	0.84	0.6185
Dutch florin	1.8518	2.8935	2.79	2.94	2.5723
Swiss franc	2.5266	2.5684	1.81	1.91	2.4655
Swedish krona	0.4776	0.4854	0.46	0.50	0.4812
Norwegian krona	0.4871	0.4960	0.47	0.50	0.4812
Finnish mark	0.5940	0.6486	0.53	0.56	0.5454
Canadian dollar	2.3218	2.3593	2.28	2.40	2.3422
Australian dollar	2.5021	2.5425	2.28	2.40	2.3422
S. African rand	0.8970	0.7083	0.83	0.88	0.8998
Belgian franc (10)	1.9398	1.0249	0.89	0.71	0.7029
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9523	3.0000	2.11	2.04	1.0167
Italian lira (1,000)	2.0783	2.1119	2.90	3.05	2.5788
Jordanian dinar	4.4000	4.7000	2.04	2.15	2.0833
Egyptian pound	0.9000	0.9800	0.90	0.70	0.8326
ECU	3.5874	3.5822	0.98	0.98	1.0055
Irish punt	0.0743	0.0713	0.48	0.52	0.3938
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4663	2.5061	2.42	2.55	2.4878

*These rates vary according to bank. SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

האזנה מאלט

Key Representative Rates

Table with 2 columns: Currency and Rate. Includes US dollar (NIS 3.1820), Sterling (NIS 4.9972), and Mark (NIS 2.0941).

NYSE STOCK MARKET

Table with 2 columns: Index and Change. Includes NYSE Composite (11,211.58), S&P 500 (3,421.12), and NASDAQ (2,811.12).

New York market indexes

Table with 2 columns: Index and Change. Includes DJ Industrial (10,211.58), DJ Transport (1,211.58), and DJ Utility (1,311.58).

NYSE advance declines

Table with 2 columns: Index and Change. Includes NYSE Advance (1,211.58), NYSE Decline (1,311.58), and NYSE Net (1,411.58).

Other stock market indexes

Table with 2 columns: Index and Change. Includes FTSE 100 (2,311.58), Nikkei 225 (14,411.58), and Hang Seng (11,511.58).

Israeli stocks in NY

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name and Change. Includes Tel Aviv (1,211.58), Bezeq (1,311.58), and Bank Leumi (1,411.58).

NYSE / AMEX

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name and Change. Lists various NYSE and AMEX stocks like Intel, Microsoft, and Apple.

International Money Markets

Table with 2 columns: Market and Rate. Includes Dollar crossrates (US), Gold, and Silver.

Libor rates

Table with 2 columns: Rate and Change. Lists various Libor rates for different terms and currencies.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Table with 2 columns: Country and Data. Includes UK, France, Germany, and Japan.

International Commodities and Metals

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Oil, Gold, and Silver.

US commodities

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Lists various US agricultural and industrial commodities.

London commodities

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Lists various commodities traded in London.

Spot market metals (US)

Table with 2 columns: Metal and Price. Lists various spot market metals like Gold and Silver.

New York metal futures

Table with 2 columns: Metal and Price. Lists various New York metal futures contracts.

London metal futures

Table with 2 columns: Metal and Price. Lists various London metal futures contracts.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Table with 2 columns: Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading. Lists various Tel Aviv stocks and their prices.

Table with 2 columns: Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading. Continuation of Tel Aviv stock prices.

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Shares decline as shekel rebounds

Shares declined yesterday as the shekel rebounded against the US dollar, threatening the nation's exporters.

Africa-Israel Hotels led the decline, falling 10 percent, the daily limit. Most of the major banks and chemical companies also lost ground.

The Two-Sided Index dropped 1.41 percent to 184.09, while the Maof Index declined 1.23% to 193.94.

The most active stock was Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., which fell 1% on NIS 3.2 million worth of shares traded.

There's disappointment over the dollar coming all the way back," said Ron Weisberg, trader at Israel Brokerage and Investments in Tel Aviv.

The shekel strengthened to 3.192 per dollar - its level last Friday - from 3.22 on Monday. It had weakened 2.2% against the dollar last month.

A stronger shekel hurts exporters, who are the backbone of the economy, by making their products more expensive for overseas buyers.

In addition exporters pay salaries and costs in stronger local currency while earning revenue in weaker dollars.

The dollar strengthened on Monday largely because of the unrest last week. Analysts say investors, confronted by political instability, will tend to swap local currencies for the relative stability of the dollar.

A devaluation can help exporters, but it can also speed up the economy and accelerate inflation. Stock investors watch inflation because the Central Bank has fought price increases with higher interest rates.

FTSE closes at record high

LONDON (Reuters) The London stock market scored a record close yesterday, less than two points below its all-time trading peak.

US data provided no great shocks for markets concerned about interest rate prospects and gold revived after investors earlier took flight, sending it to its lowest for 18 months.

In a currency market on the watch for problems with European monetary union, the mark rose to 1,001.70 lire after French President Jacques Chirac said Italy might not be among the first countries to join a single European currency in 1999.

But it later slipped back to around 997.30, below its previous close of 998. Italy responded angrily, suggesting that Chirac should stay out of Italian affairs.

Wall Street edged higher, breathing a sigh of relief after weaker-than-expected data for the US September National Association of Purchasing Management index eased inflation fears.

The index declined to 51.7 in September from 52.6 in August. Economists had forecast a reading of 52.5.

Another key barometer of the US economy, the Conference Board's index of leading indicators, which forecasts economic trends six to nine months ahead, rose 0.2 percent in August after an identical 0.2% July gain.

Markets were more concerned about Friday's all-important US non-farm payrolls figures for September.

Higher futures and bond prices and the view that cash-fund funds could channel money back into the equity market boosted London shares to near the key 4,000 level on the FTSE 100 index.

One senior London trader said the market was "more likely to go up than down - the most important reason being there is cash around. Supply looks relatively limited and the demand could be quite good."

The market shrugged off news of a higher-than-expected British September purchasing managers index - 53.4 against a forecast 51.9 - which could suggest higher interest rates.

Among individual shares, Imperial Tobacco, one of four firms created from the demerger of conglomerate Hanson, started trading at 390 pence, surpassing share analysts' most optimistic expectations, and finished at 393 1/2.

German shares ended a calm session a little firmer with investors holding back after last week's record-breaking performance.

"We are low on economic news, low on corporate news. This market is really still drawing breath after the push upward we had last week," said one Munich dealer.

French shares finished lower after digesting recent strong gains.

The dollar hit 2 1/2 year highs against the yen on Monday, boosted by signs that Japan's economic revival was faltering and the gap between US and Japanese interest rates was widening.

It showed a limited decline against the yen yesterday, after a series of sometimes puzzling comments by Japanese officials on how Tokyo might want the dollar to perform, but edged up again to perform.

Dow hits new high

NEW YORK (AP) - Blue-chip and large-company measures edged to new highs yesterday as interest rates fell in the bond market on the latest economic news.

But technology shares slumped amid more profit-taking on September's rally.

The Dow Jones industrial average added nearly 23 points, notching a new high and its first close above 5,900.

The Standard and Poor's 500 list and the NYSE composite index, which are also dominated by larger companies, padded Monday's record highs.

Despite the records, stocks struggled through much of the session even though interest rates fell to their lowest level since August in the bond market.

Bonds rallied after a morning report showing that the manufacturing sector's growth slowed in September.

Although investors were cheered last week when the Federal Reserve decided not to raise its key lending rates, some remained concerned the central bank's policy makers will be forced to slow the economy with higher interest rates when they meet in November.

CURRENCY CROSS RATES

Table with 5 columns: Currency, Rate, and Date. Lists various currency exchange rates.

Weizman appeals to Arafat, Netanyahu

FRESIDENT Ezer Weizman made an emotional plea yesterday to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to find the path to peace at the summit in Washington.

"If we don't go the way of peace we'll get tangled here in a war," Weizman said, in comments made during a condolence visit to the family of Col. Nabih Mari, who was killed on Friday in a clash with Palestinians near Rafiah.

"Each side has its own dreams, desires, demands, and therefore, if we sit together, without the sound of shots and ambulance sirens being heard, perhaps there will be hope," he said.

"I hope that we will be intelligent enough to further the peace process that is at the moment foundering a bit."

"I send from here, purposely from here, blessings and wishes to the prime minister and to the chairman, Abu Amar, Arafat, that they

News agencies

find the way to live together and not to shoot at one another," Weizman said, using Arafat's *nomme de guerre*.

He said he had a feeling they would find a way to ease the situation, in which case, "at least we will know that those who were killed, including Col. Nabih Mari, perhaps did not die in vain."

Weizman shook the hands of Mari's family members, telling them he had come to share their grief and that of the entire Druse community. He noted the community had paid a price in battle that was disproportionate to its size.

He told Mari's father to be "proud of your son, proud of the entire Druse community in the Middle East."

He also told reporters that he had spoken to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, "who listened considerably to what I had to say, but did not necessarily accept my

opinions.

"I hope that the summit meeting in Washington will not hurt the peace process," he said, adding that he was sorry Mubarak decided not to participate in it. "Egypt was the first to make the brave influential move in the peace process, which the entire Arab world opposed. The president who did this sacrificed his life for peace. Egypt is the key player in the Arab world."

He said he hopes the summit will result in an understanding that the peace process must move forward, in deeds and not just words.

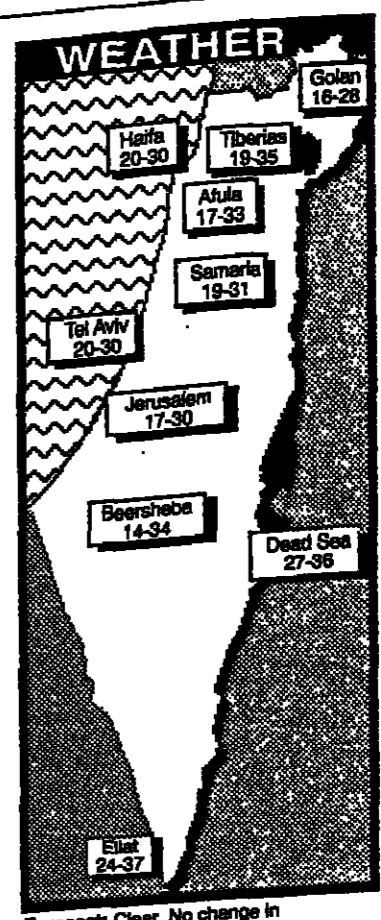
He also noted that when Palestinian forces opened fire on Israeli soldiers, that caused a significant change in the region.

Weizman also made condolence calls on the families of Lt. Michael Dadosh, Sgt. Yehuda Levy and St. Sgt. Visam Amar, who all were killed in last week's violence.

He told Dadosh's family that he hoped the week's events would end in something positive.



Succot vacationers line up yesterday in the Western Wall Plaza to go through the Hasmonean Tunnel. (AP)



Forecast: Clear. No change in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WEATHER
Amsterdam	11	15	rain
Berlin	12	16	cloudy
Buenos Aires	21	26	clear
Cairo	20	26	clear
Chicago	9	14	cloudy
Copenhagen	9	14	cloudy
Frankfurt	9	14	rain
Geneva	12	16	cloudy
Helsinki	12	16	cloudy
Hong Kong	22	29	cloudy
Jakarta	24	31	cloudy
London	10	15	cloudy
Los Angeles	18	24	clear
Madrid	10	15	clear
Moscow	8	13	clear
New York	15	21	rain
Paris	13	18	rain
Rome	15	20	clear
Sydney	13	19	clear
Tokyo	16	21	cloudy
Toronto	11	16	clear
Yerevan	12	18	clear
Zurich	11	16	rain

Winning numbers and cards

IN last night's weekly Mifal Hapayis Lotto draw the winning numbers were 9, 13, 29, 32, 39, and 42. The additional number was 37.

In the daily Chance draw, the winning cards were the king of spades, king of hearts, seven of diamonds and jack of clubs.

Druse soldier buried

HUNDREDS of friends and family members attended the funeral in Peki'in yesterday of St. Sgt. Visam Amar, who died Monday of wounds suffered in a clash last Thursday with Palestinians at Netzarim in Gaza.

He was eulogized by his company commander as an outstanding soldier. Amar had suffered a light wound in his hand two months ago during a clash in Lebanon. His Givatit unit was moved to Gaza two weeks ago.

Amar, the fifth soldier to die from the Druse village, left his parents, three brothers, and six sisters. (Irim)

Danny Nahmani petitions again to block wife's use of eggs

THE Haifa District Court will begin hearing a request next week by Danny Nahmani to issue an injunction against his estranged wife Ruti's use of their fertilized eggs via a surrogate mother, a judge decided yesterday.

Last month, the Supreme Court, in an expanded panel of 11 justices, gave Ruti Nahmani custody over the eggs, which Danny had wanted destroyed.

However, in his suit filed in the district court against Ruti, Assuta Hospital, and the attorney-general, Danny Nahmani argued that Ruti should be barred from getting the eggs implanted in a surrogate mother, since such a move would violate the 1996 Surrogacy Law. Ruti lost her uterus to cancer several years ago and cannot carry the child herself.

According to Danny Nahmani, the law requires both parents to be a party in the contracting of a surrogate mother, since it takes into account the implications of such a step on the father and on the unborn child. The law also requires a psychological and medical exam of both parents to determine their ability to go ahead with the surrogate process.

He added that it is against Israeli law to contract a surrogate mother without the consent of the father. He therefore asked the court to ban any use of the eggs, which are frozen at Assuta Hospital.

None of the respondents to the petition yet have submitted their responses to the court. (Irim)

March route changed to avoid Arab neighborhoods

CONCERN for the safety of participants in today's Jerusalem March prompted police to make a last-minute change in one of the routes to steer marchers away from Arab neighborhoods.

Giora Glazer, march director, said it was the first time in the march's history changes were made for security reasons, but that he readily agreed to the police request given the unrest of recent days.

"A big deal shouldn't be made of this," Glazer said. "It is really only a small change." Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby also described the changes police demanded "small."

Marchers were to have walked through the Arab section of the Abu Tor neighborhood, and into Silwan, an Arab neighborhood known as a center of unrest. Instead, they are to go through the Jewish section of Abu Tor, and then along the Old City walls, ending up as planned at the Western Wall.

"We simply don't have the manpower available to secure hundreds and maybe even thousands of

BILL HUTMAN

marchers going through Silwan," said one police source, noting that the police force in Jerusalem has been stretched to its limit in recent days.

The route to the Old City is one of three routes today, with two others leaving from Moshav Beit Zeit and Tsafat Park.

The march is likely to snarl traffic in parts of the capital, with organizers expecting more than 20,000 people to participate despite the recent unrest.

A police spokeswoman said a number of city streets would be closed at various times during the day, and advised commuters to consult newspaper ads detailing the closures, and keep tuned to the radio for updates.

The Ein Kerem entrance to Jerusalem, from Tsafat Park, is slated to be closed in both directions from 6-11 a.m. Bezeq Road will be closed from about 9-11 a.m., with exact times depending on when the marchers arrive, the spokeswoman

said. At about 1:30 p.m., Ben-Zvi Boulevard is to be shut down between the Foreign Ministry and Ruppit Street. Bezael Street will also be closed at around this time, as will King George Street between France Square and Jaffa Street.

Jaffa Street itself will be closed from about 2-6 p.m. for the march, the spokeswoman said. The march culminates with a concert at Sacher Park slated to start at around 6 p.m., with traffic congestion also expected because of the expected crowd, she added.

Judy Siegel adds: Magen David Adom has mobilized additional staff and volunteers to be on duty during the March.

Fifteen ambulances and mobile intensive care units and dozens of medics and paramedics will be stationed along the three routes to Jerusalem and along the parade route in town.

MDA yesterday advised marchers to drink fluids before starting out, to wear a wide-brimmed hat and cover exposed skin with sunscreen.

IDF raises helicopter from sea depths, but no bodies found

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

A FOREIGN salvage company succeeded in raising the Navy Dolphin helicopter from the sea off the northern coast, but the bodies of two missing officers were not found.

The army said a Navy robot locat-

ed the main parts of the Dolphin which crashed during a training exercise two weeks ago - spread out on the sea bed over 500 meters deep.

The robot marked the site so that the foreign company could raise the wreckage. The Navy does not have the equipment to salvage wrecks at such a depth.

To the IDF's chagrin, the bodies of pilot Lt.-Col. Zion Bachar and Lt. Eran Gravia were not found. The body of the copilot was located hours after the wreck.

The Navy robot was continuing the search for the bodies along the sea floor and IDF forces were continuing sweeps along the shores, an army statement said.

Swiss suspect foreign agenda for wartime review

ZURICH (Reuters) - Stunned by virulent attacks from abroad about Switzerland's wartime links to Nazi Germany, Swiss officials and commentators have started accusing foreign competitors of expressly campaigning to discredit the country.

Politicians and newspapers suggest that foreigners jealous of Swiss financial prowess or in need of a political boost are exploiting the drive for a review of Swiss-Nazi financial deals and a fresh search for Holocaust victims' unclaimed wealth.

"The National Council stands up to Senator D'Amato. There will be a probe, but done calmly," was the headline on yesterday's *Journal de Geneve* after the lower house of

parliament backed a sweeping historical probe of Swiss wartime history. It was referring to New York Senator Alfonse D'Amato, who has taken a well-publicized interest in the Swiss National Bank's purchases of Nazi gold and the search for potential Holocaust accounts.

"It is no coincidence that especially harsh tones are coming from the City of London or the New York senatorial campaign," charged Marc Suter, a deputy from the Radical Democratic Party.

"One reason this storm of indignation is roaring through the Anglo-Saxon newspapers may be to weaken Switzerland as a financial center, to undermine Swiss banking secrecy or to deflect attention from their own shortcomings," he said.

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